

REMARKS

The present application was filed on April 6, 2000 with claims 1-38. Claims 1-11, 13-22 and 31-38 were canceled, and new claims 39-67 were added, in an Amendment filed by Applicants on September 23, 2005. Claims 12, 23-30 and 39-67 were pending prior to the amendments made herein. Claims 12, 23, 30, 39, 50 and 60 were the pending independent claims.

In the final Office Action, the Examiner indicated that independent claims 12 and 30 were allowed. The remaining claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) or §103(a).

In this response, Applicants cancel claims 23, 39 and 49-67.

Dependent method claims 24-29 have been amended to depend directly from allowed method claim 30, rather than directly from canceled claim 23.

Dependent apparatus claims 40-48 have been amended to depend directly or indirectly from allowed apparatus claim 12, rather than directly or indirectly from canceled claim 39.

In view of the foregoing, claims 12, 24-30 and 40-48 as amended are believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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